

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 4-10 are pending in this application. Claim 3 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Chu (U.S. Patent No. 5,920,899. Claims 2 and 4-10 were allowed.

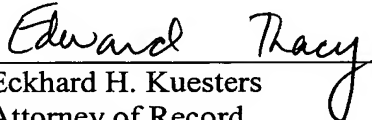
Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of Claims 2 and 4-10.

Claim 3 is canceled, making the present rejection moot.

Accordingly, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Edward W. Tracy, Jr.
Registration No. 47,998